

Message Text

SECRET

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43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 079981

R 231244Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3712
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T KUWAIT 3910

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF, US, KU

SUBJ: KUWAIT CONCERN OVER REPORTS ISRAEL TO RECEIVE PERSHING
MISSILE

REF: A. STATE 222166 B. KUWAIT 3870 C. SECTO 13007

1. ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER SHAIKH SALIM AL-SABAH, (SON OF RULER, FORMERLY KUWAITI AMB TO U.S. AND MIN LABOR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS) CALLED ME TO FORMINISTRY SEPT 23. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN DIRECTED BY CABINET TO "CONVEY TO AMERICAN AMBASSADOR" GOK CONCERN REGARDING REPORTS USG CONSIDERING PROVIDING PERSHING MISSILES TO ISRAEL. CONCERN OF GOK, SAID ACTING FORMIN, BASED ON TWO CONSIDERATIONS: (A) THAT THIS MISSILE FIRED FROM ISRAEL COULD REACH ARAB CAPITALS INCLUDING KUWAIT, THUS KUWAIT NATIONAL SECURITY INVOLVED; AND, (B) THAT PROVIDING WEAPONS SUCH AS PERSHING MISSILE TO ISRAEL WOULD NOT ADVANCE PROSPECTS FOR LASTING PEACE IN MIDEAST, A GOAL WHICH IS CURRENTLY BEING PURSUED WITH GREAT SKILL BY SECRETARY KISSINGER.

2. I REPLIED CONTINUED SECURITY OF ISRAEL WAS ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IN USG MIDEAST POLICY; HOWEVER, I HAD NO RPT NO COMMENT WHATSOEVER TO MAKE REGARDING PARTICULAR ITEMS OF WEAPONRY WE PROVIDED TO ISRAEL. I SAID I WOULD CONVEY KUWAITI STATEMENT OF CONCERN
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TO WASHINGTON.

3. I THEN TOOK OPPORTUNIOYHOF CALL TO REITERATE USG DETERMIN-
ATION KEEP UP MOMENTUM OF ITS EFFORTS IN MIDEAST, DRAWING
ESPECIALLY ON STATE 222166. ACTING FORMIN SAID GOK SUPPORTED
SECRETARY KISSINGER'S EFFORTS AND WISHED HIM SUCCESS. NOTING
RADIO REPORTS OF SECRETARY'S SPEECH TO UN MENTIONING POSSIBILITY
OF "MORE INFORMAL MULTILATERAL MEETING", ACTING FORMIN ASKED
IF THIS IMPLIED US WILLINGNESS INCLUDE PALESTPUANS IN SUCH
MEETING. FOLLOWING GUIDANCE IN REF C, I OBSERVED INFORMAL
GATHERING COULD EXPLORE ANY AND ALL PROMISING DIPLOMATIC
INITATIVES. I SAID IMPLICATION I WOULD DRAW FROM ALL THREE
POINTS IN SPEECH WAS USG DETERMINATION TO EXPLORE EVERY AVENUE
POSSIBLY LEADING TOWARD SETTLEMENT, AND INTEREST IN PROGRESS
WHEREVER PROGRESS CAN BE MADE.
STOLTZFUS

SECRET

NNN

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